

Doctors of the Church

Saint Ambrose (c. 340-397), bishop of Milan, Italy, a major opponent of Arianism, wrote and preached extensively. One of the four traditional Doctors of the Latin Church. [named a Doctor of the church, September 20, 1295 by Boniface VIII]

Saint Augustine of Hippo (c. 354-430), North African bishop, author of *Confessions*, *City of God*, and numerous treatises, countered heretical movements, one of the most influential theologians of the Western church, One of the four traditional Doctors of the Latin Church called "Doctor of Grace" [September 20, 1295 by Boniface VIII].

Saint Jerome (c. 343-420), translated Old Testament from Hebrew into Latin and revised Latin translation of New Testament to produce Vulgate version of Bible, One of the four traditional Doctors of the Latin Church, called "Father of Biblical Science" [September 20, 1295 by Boniface VIII].

Saint Gregory the Great (c. 540-604), pope, strengthened papacy and worked for clerical and monastic reform Fourth and last of the traditional Doctors of the Latin Church. [September 20, 1295 by Boniface VIII].

Saint Athanasius (c. 297-373), bishop of Alexandria, dominant opponent of Arians, called "Father of Orthodoxy" [1568 by Pius V]

Saint John Chrysostom ("Golden-Mouthed") (c. 347-407), archbishop of Constantinople, homilist, writer of scripture commentaries and letters, patron of preachers [1568 by Pius V].

Saint Basil the Great (c. 329-379), bishop of Caesarea in Asia Minor, refuted Arian errors, wrote treatises, homilies, and monastic rules, called "Father of Monasticism of the East" [1568 by Pius V].

Saint Gregory of Nazianzus (c. 330-390), bishop of Constantinople, opponent of Arianism, wrote major theological treatises as well as letters and poetry, called the "Christian Demosthenes" and, in the East, "The Theologian" [1568 by Pius V].

Saint Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274), Italian Dominican, wrote systematically on philosophy, theology, and Catholic doctrine, patron of Catholic schools and education, one of the most influential theologians in the West, Called Angelic Doctor [April 11, 1567 by Pius V].

Saint Bonaventure (c. 1217-1274), Franciscan, bishop of Albano, Italy, cardinal, called Seraphic Doctor. [March 14, 1588 by Sixtus V].

Saint Anselm of Canterbury (1033-1109), archbishop, called "Father of Scholasticism" [February 3, 1720 by Clement XI].

Saint Isidore of Seville (c. 560-636), Spanish archbishop, encyclopedist, and preeminent scholar of his day [April 25, 1722 by Innocent XIII].

Saint Peter Chrysologus (c. 400-450), archbishop of Ravenna, Italy,

homilist and writer, counteracted Monophysite heresy, called Golden-Worded [February 10, 1729 by Benedict XIII].

Saint Leo I, the Great (c. 400-461), pope, wrote christological and other works against the heresies of his day [October 15, 1754 by Benedict XIV].

Saint Peter Damian (1007-1072), Italian Benedictine and cardinal, ecclesiastical and clerical reformer [September 27, 1828 by Leo XII].

Saint Bernard of Clairvaux (c. 1090-1153), French Cistercian abbot and monastic reformer, called "Mellifluous Doctor" [August 20, 1830 by Pius VIII].

Saint Hilary of Poitiers (c. 315-368), one of first Latin doctrinal writers, opposed Arianism, Called The Athanasius of the West. [May 13, 1851 by Pius IX].

Saint Alphonsus Liguori (1696-1787), founder of Redemptorists, preeminent moral theologian and apologist, patron of confessors and moralists [July 7, 1871 by Pius IX].

Saint Francis de Sales (1567-1622), bishop of Geneva, spiritual writer, patron of Catholic writers and press [November 16, 1871 by Pius IX].

Saint Cyril of Alexandria (c. 376-444), bishop, authored doctrinal treatises against Nestorian heresy [July 28, 1882 by Leo XIII].

Saint Cyril of Jerusalem (c. 315-386), bishop, catechist, vigorous opponent of Arianism [July 28, 1882 by Leo XIII].

Saint John Damascene (c. 675-749), Syrian monk, doctrinal writer, called "Golden Speaker" [August 19, 1890 by Leo XIII].

Saint Bede the Venerable (c. 673-735), English Benedictine, called "Father of English History" [November 13, 1899 by Leo XIII].

Saint Ephrem the Syrian (c. 306-373), counteracted Gnosticism and Arianism with his poems, hymns, and other writings. Called Harp of the Holy Spirit. [October 5, 1920 by Benedict XV].

Saint Peter Canisius (1521-1597), Dutch Jesuit, catechist, important figure in Counter-Reformation in Germany [May 21, 1925 by Pius XI].

Saint John of the Cross (1542-1591), co-founder of Discalced Carmelites with Saint Theresa of Avila, called "Doctor of Mystical Theology" [August 24, 1926 by Pius XI].

Saint Robert Bellarmine (1542-1621), Italian Jesuit, archbishop of Capua, wrote Reformation-era doctrinal defenses, catechisms, and works on ecclesiology and church-state relations [September 17, 1931 by Pius XI].

Saint Albert the Great (c. 1200-1280), German Dominican, bishop of Regensburg, teacher of Saint Thomas Aquinas, patron of scientists, called "Universal Doctor" and "Expert Doctor" [December 16, 1931 by Pius XI].

Saint Anthony of Padua (1195-1231), first theologian of Franciscans, preacher, called "Evangelical Doctor" [January 16, 1946 by Pius XII].

Saint Lawrence of Brindisi (1559-1619), Italian Capuchin Franciscan, influential post-Reformation preacher [March 19, 1959 by John XXIII].

Saint Teresa of Ávila (1515-1582), Spanish Carmelite, initiated discalced Carmelite movement with Saint John of the Cross, prolific spiritual and mystical writer, first woman Doctor of the church [September 27, 1970 by Paul VI].

Saint Catherine of Siena (c. 1347-1380), Italian Third Order Dominican, mystical author, also active in support of Crusades and in papal politics. Convinced the Pope to return to Rome from Avignon [October 4, 1970 by Paul VI].

Saint Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897), French Carmelite, wrote the spiritual autobiography "Story of a Soul" describing her "Little Way" of spiritual perfection, Patroness of the Missions, called the "Little Flower" [October 19, 1997 by John Paul II].

Saint John of Ávila (1500-1569), Spanish priest, preacher, scholastic author, mystic, and clerical reformer. Called the "Apostle of Andalusia" [October 7, 2012 by Benedict XVI].

Saint Hildegard of Bingen (1098-1179), German Benedictine abbess, writer, composer, philosopher, mystic, visionary, and polymath. Wrote theological, botanical, and medicinal texts, letters, liturgical songs and drama, and poems. Called the "Sibyl of the Rhine" [October 7, 2012 by Benedict XVI].